

**REMARKS**

In the Final Office Action dated January 10, 2006, and the subsequent Advisory Action dated March 30, 2006, the Examiner indicated that claims 1-13 and 18-22 are pending in the application and the Examiner rejected all pending claims. By this amendment, applicant has modified claim 1 to include the limitations of claim 2, specifically combiner circuitry used to supplement phone line power with power from a host device to maintain a specific level of power. This combiner circuitry is not taught or suggested by the prior art. Previously, the Examiner relied on Liu (U.S Patent No.6,624,635) as teaching combiner circuitry. As discussed in previous responses, Liu merely teaches a universal power supply (UPS) used to continually supply power to an Internet ready telephone. Liu, however, specifically teaches that the UPS either operates on line power drawn from an electrical outlet or on an internal battery, not a combination of the two. Thus, Liu lacks a teaching of combiner circuitry.

Even if it was assumed for the sake of argument that Liu does teach a combiner circuit used to supplement phone line power with power from a host device (which it does not), no motivation is present in any of the cited prior art for modification of any of the cited references to include a combiner circuit as claimed. Liu provides no motivation for supplying a combiner circuit as it lacks teaching a combiner circuit. Similarly, Weston in view of Johnson (as previously used by the Examiner to reject claim 1) contains no suggestion of a need for a combiner circuit. Weston in view of Johnson produces a converted DC power supply voltage from the phone line used to power various components in a modem. Specifically, at column 5 lines 21-37, Weston states:

“isolated power converter 64 receives DC power from phone line 74, converts it to an appropriate DC power supply voltage, and provides the DC power supply voltage to the various components of the modem. All components of the modem except microcontroller 60 derive their power entirely from phone line 74. Although microcontroller 60 derives its power from phone line 74 during the modem operation, it requires a small amount of power from computer battery 68 to perform a modem initiation procedure. The modem initiation procedure includes the following: accepting modem initiation commands from computer host 66 and sending an appropriate signal to the phone line so that current can flow from the phone line to the modem. Microcontroller 60 typically draws a current in the range of a micro-amp to a few milli-amps during the modem initiation procedure and does not drain computer battery 68 in any significant amount.”

Nowhere does Weston in view of Johnson even remotely suggest utilizing power from a host device to supplement the power from the phone line at a combiner circuit to maintain a predetermined power level. As seen in the above passage, the only time host power is used to power the modem is during initiation procedures. No suggestion of supplementing the power from the phone line with that of the host device to maintain a predetermined power level so as to not affect modem performance is present in Weston, Johnson or Liu, whether considered alone or in any combination, nor is any motivation to combine the reference to achieve the presently claimed invention.

### **Conclusion**

The present invention is not taught or suggested by the prior art. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of the claims. An early Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

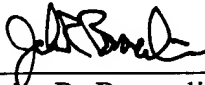
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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 19-5425.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

  
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